DNREC Division of Fish & Wildlife's DuPont Nature Center to reopen April 3

(The DuPont Nature Center at Mispillion Harbor Reserve will reopen for the 2019 season April 3. DNREC photo by Chris Bennett.)

Volunteers sought for spring cleanup day March 16

DOVER — The DuPont Nature Center at Mispillion Harbor Reserve, a DNREC Division of Fish & Wildlife facility located in the heart of Delaware's Bayshore Region, will reopen Wednesday, April 3 after having been closed for the fall and winter. The center will be open in April from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays only. The center's 2019 schedule for April through September can be found on the <u>DuPont Nature</u> Center website.

Prior to reopening, the DuPont Nature Center will hold a volunteer spring cleanup day from 9 a.m. to noon, Saturday, March 16. Projects include exhibit and tank set-up, planting beach grass, and cleaning the center and surrounding grounds. Volunteers under age 18 must provide a parental consent form, and volunteers under age 16 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information or to sign up to volunteer, contact Lynne Pusey at lynne.pusey@delaware.gov or 302-422-1329.

In the spring, the center's large deck overlooking the harbor offers wildlife watchers an unparalleled view of the spectacle of spawning horseshoe crabs and migrating shorebirds, including federally-listed threatened red knots that depend on horseshoe crab eggs to help fuel their 9,000-mile journey. Indoor freshwater and saltwater tanks allow a close-up look at a variety of aquatic species, from horseshoe crabs to diamondback terrapins.

Located on the edge of Mispillion Harbor at the intersection of the mouths of the Mispillion River and Cedar Creek, the DuPont Nature Center at Mispillion Harbor Reserve offers a variety of interactive exhibits and educational programs. Spring and summer programs can be viewed on the <u>DuPont Nature Center website</u>.

The DuPont Nature Center is located at 2992 Lighthouse Road, near Slaughter Beach, east of Milford. Admission to the center is free and open to the public. For general information about the center, please call 302-422-1329 or visit <u>DuPont Nature Center</u>. For inquiries about the center's programs and operations, please contact Lynne Pusey, lynne.pusey@delaware.gov or 302-422-1329.

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